



Wards 2 & 3

February 11, 2016

McClure Multi-Generational/Champlain Senior Center, 241 N. Winooski Ave.

Commenced 6:38

Public Officials Report

Human Services Committee

- Regulation on e-cigarettes
 - Targeted towards young people – flavors
 - Public health issue
 - Working on a bill to include e cigarettes in the indoor clean air act
 - Increased use of e cigs over regular
 - It gets you hooked when you are younger
- Payed sick days bill is coming back to the House from the Senate
 - Without the small business exemptions

Transportation committee and climate caucus

- Climate caucus – fully funding low income weatherization, carbon tax
 - The governor is only big on the divestment part of carbon tax
 - The federal gas tax has not been raised
 - Trying to raise our gas tax by two cents – the price of gas is so low it is a good time to do this, one cent would go to public transit
- Tiger grant is moving forward
 - Track between Rutland and Burlington
 - “three to four years”
 - Railroad trespassing bill – seven deaths from this
- There were 4 bicycle deaths last year due to intoxicated drivers – looking to address this
- Cell phones – illegal to text while driving, being virtually ignored

Housing and Economic Development Jeanne o Sullivan

- Tax incremental financing – need to expand our TIF district for town center development
- There are no rentals in Burlington, .5% vacancy
 - In the near future, looking at about 1,000 new units of housing but we still need more

- Employee or independent contractor for construction – the confusion keeps construction companies from hiring
 - Will be working on this this term
 - Will have a definition and more jobs will become available
- Career technical education is severely lacking
 - 75% of students are “Price Chopper ready”
 - Asking the education committee to address this
 - Technical school should start in elementary and continue through 12th grade
 - Essex tech has limited spaces for our students
 - North Avenue Corridor study is the best idea they have come up with in a long time
 - That is the most dangerous stretch of road
 - Don’t understand why there is such a problem with a study
 - Please support this – vote “no” on two
- Small tax on hotel states
 - It is being considered

North Avenue Task Force

- Andrea Todd – Ward three delegate
 - Contractor has been hired to put designs together which will be voted on in a month
 - The bid will then go to contractors
 - Bike lanes, two lanes and a middle turning lane
 - Contract came in under budget – there is going to be money for the outreach of the Pilot project itself
 - Outreach and education is the next step
 - Seeking input from people who use north ave
 - Looking for people who want to join this outreach
 - Presenting the PTOs
 - Comment: Colchester Pilot project worked out well
 - Avenueforeveryone.com
 - Even if the 4 lane thing passes, that is still only one section of the study – the rest of the study will go forward
 - From Washington Street to Plattsburg Street
 - There is a CCTA represented
 - Question: Will sidewalks be improved
 - There will be patching of the road
 - may be patching on the sidewalks along that area as well
 - The city has done a full audit of the sidewalks and found problems
 - Flexi posts for protected bike lanes as well as paint delineation

Burlington Bike Walk Master Plan

Tony Reddington

- A network of physically protected bike lanes – flexi posts
 - Proposals for hard protected bike lanes on Winooski and other streets
- The plan will soon be available online
 - Two holes – North Ave and the South End along the Parkway
 - Both of those areas are being addressed in different plans

Ballot item – Max

- Vote “no” on number two – yes to Pilot Project
- The people who put out the petition for the ballot item
- The road is just not safe – there have been 300 crashes since 2012
- This road needs to be safe for everyone
- Second piece on the handout (See supporting doc)
- If you say yes on the ballot, you are saying you don’t want to even see if it can be made safer
- It will only make car commute time slightly longer – by minutes or even seconds
- The City has fallen behind on biking issues
- You can donate to the campaign or volunteer to pass out handouts on town meeting day
 - There will be a paypal account to donate to

Statement from 4 lanes

Friday, Feb 12 6 to 6:45 Ch 17

City Market Officials – South End Expansion

- General Manager John Tashiro and Community Engagement & Marketing Director Allison Weinhausen
- Tashiro
 - 11,000 + members of the co op
 - Store was designed for 15 million profit but makes 40 million
 - Relieve pressure from the downtown store, expect about 20% of sales to be diverted to the new store while also generating new members
 - Break ground by June this year and open by next June
 - Community has been extremely supportive
 - Key City Council meeting next meeting about zoning amendment
 - Architects have been hired
 - Looking at 100 to 120 new jobs created
- Weinhausen
 - Proposed design of the new store (see supporting documents)
 - 109 – 114 parking spaces
 - Bike parking out front and on the side
 - 14,000 sq feet of customer space
 - Electric car charging stations
 - Juice bar and extended coffee bar is proposed as well as more extensive and accessible bulk

- Two entries possibly
- Brigg street will be improved and more pedestrian access on Flynn Ave
- Talking to CCTA to have a bus stop in front or in the parking lot of the co op
- Intend to put a teaching kitchen and two community spaces on the second level
- Outside and inside seating and a garden
- There will be to community engagement sessions in the near future
- Q&A
 - Will there be an Old North End store in the future?
 - The South End store is viewed as the beginning of expansion and are considering moving into other areas
 - Member structure financing?
 - We have thought about it but we have been saving for years to create this space so at this point we do not need to turn to the community for financing
 - Are there any plans to renovate/ retrofit current store?
 - Some pressure will be automatically alleviated from the 20% of sales that are diverted to the new store
 - Will also work on best utilizing the space
 - Will you have a covered area for bikes?
 - There will be a canopy over the bike parking
 - The architecture is actually a bike advocate
 - Will there be more energy efficient methods on the new store – such as solar panels?
 - Yes. Not just renewable energy but using the energy effectively
 - Will there be space for a bailor to recycling film plastic?
 - We have been talking to the City Council about that and hope to install
 -

Burlington's Climate Action Plan

- Jennifer Green, CEDO and BED – Greenhouse gas emissions
 - Just finished “COP 21”: 183 leaders gathered in France to address this issue
 - Plan was to level off emissions by 2016, the data of which will be collected 2017
 - By 2025, see a reduction in gas emissions – back to 2010 levels
 - Government, natural gas, solid waste, and transportation – marginal drops in all but transportation which has not dropped
 - Public transportation will be a big part of
 - 39 strategies and 8 key sectors are addressed by the Plan
 - Working on employee commute incentives to transport by ways other than car
 - Light rail is not being focused on extensively at this point
 - McNeal is not taken into account in this Plan but hope to include it in the future
 - Housing costs does contribute to the amount of people who have to commute to Burlington jobs
 - Champ Energy Challenge: Program will offer 75% of weatherization to multi-family units – such as the Victorian buildings cut into several apts.
 - Burlingtonvt.gov/public/capprogress

City Council continued

- Sarah Giannoni
 - Charter Changes
 - Expanding Parks and Rec and Police commissions from 5 to 7 members to increase diversity
 - Annual report changed from including everything to a summary and everyone who receives salaries – will be available in full online
 - Audit to be made available 30 days before town meeting
- - Mall – The City and Devonwood will soon enter into an agreement
 - Reopening St Paul and partial opening Pine Street improvements along cherry
 - TIF Money, TIF district extended – has to pass a vote before used
 - Needs a change to downtown zoning
 - Would not create a precedent for other buildings to go to 14 stories
 - 274 housing units, 20% of which would be affordable
 - Perceived that there is no problem from the public about height
 - Burlington Telecom
 - The telecom system has to be sold but there will a public discussion to create criteria for who can buy BT
 - Hoping for part private/part public ownership
 - Tax Ordinance to accommodate companies like Uber
 - Background checks – Uber said it would leave burly if the city insists on doing background checks
 - Personally believe that Uber should not dictate city policy

Brian – School board

- Teachers are asking 7.6% raise, only offering 1.6% across the board
 - Are at an impasse currently
 - Next step is a mediator and fact finding

Adjourned 8:44

Minutes submitted by Danielle Mund, Interim Community Engagement Specialist